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TS Control #102584

IAC-D-57/53

17 January 1957

Post-Mortem on SNIE 11-6-57:

Soviet Gross Capabilities for Attack on the

Continental US in Mid-1960,

dated 15 January 1957

I. Findings

1. The predecessor of this estimate was NIE 11-56, completed in March 1956. Since publication of the post-mortem of that estimate (IAC-D-57/28, 20 March 1956), there has been considerable improvement in intelligence on Soviet airfield development, and some additional intelligence on inflight refueling and guided missile submarines. Some gaps in intelligence on the performance characteristics of Soviet aircraft have been narrowed (see IAC-D-57/28.1, Revised, 4 December 1956). However, deficiencies continue to exist in intelligence on these subjects, as well as on Soviet biological and chemical warfare capabilities and Long-Range Aviation crew training and proficiency.

2. A number of other problems encountered in preparing this estimate, most notably the current and future strength of Soviet Long-Range Aviation, were essentially the same as those met in NIE 11-4-56, completed in August 1956. The general need for better intelligence on Soviet military plans and programs, noted in the post-mortem on NIE 11-4-56 (IAC-D-57/49, 20 September 1956), continues to exist.

II. Action

The IAC agencies and subcommittees are requested to take appropriate action on the intelligence deficiencies and needs described above.

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